AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A method for producing improved cold band suitable for drawing or ironing process, with a carbon content of less than 0.5 weight percent, said cold band having two surfaces, the method comprising the steps of:

rolling the cold band under a cold-rolling ratio of at least 30% and less than 95%;

annealing the cold band by a thermal treatment in an annealing furnace; and

coating the cold band on at least one of the surfaces,

wherein the annealing step occurs in the form of annealing of the band in a continual annealing furnace ~~before or after the coating~~ and

wherein the annealing step occurs at a temperature of more than 911°C and, therefore, at any rate above the limit temperature of the two-phase range ferrite/austenite (α/γ range in the iron-carbon system) to austenite range (γ range in the iron-carbon system), wherein a first coating step occurs before the annealing step, and after the annealing step, a second coating is deposited on the band.

2. (cancelled) ~~The method according to claim 1, wherein the coating step occurs before the annealing step~~.

3. (cancelled) ~~The method according to claim 1, wherein a first coating step occurs before the annealing step, and that, after the annealing, a second coating is deposited on the band.~~

4. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein, after the annealing, an additional coating of the band occurs using organic ingredients to enhance the brittleness of the coating.

5. (previously presented) The method of claim 4, wherein the organic ingredients are brighteners.

6. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein conductive particles are embedded into the coating.

7. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the coating is covered with a dispersion-hardened coating containing conductive particles.

8. (withdrawn) A cold band, preferably for the production of cylindrical containers and especially battery containers by drawing and ironing, said band having two surfaces and comprising:

a band rolled under a cold-rolling ratio of 30 to 95%;

said band having a carbon content of less than 0.5 weight percent ;

said band further having a coating applied to at least one of the two surfaces,

wherein the band is a thermally treated band annealed in a continually annealing furnace at a temperature of more than 911°C and, therefore, at any rate above the limit temperature of the two-phase range ferrite / austenite (α/γ range) to austenite range (γ range).

9. (withdrawn) The cold band of claim 8, wherein the band comprises, over the aforementioned coating, at least one more coating.

10. (withdrawn) The cold band of claim 8, wherein conductive particles are embedded into the coating.

11. (withdrawn) The cold band of claim 8, wherein the coating is covered with a dispersion-hardened coating containing conductive particles.

12. (withdrawn) The cold band of claim 8, wherein:

carbon is present at no more than 0.3 weight %;

manganese is present in at least 0.1 weight %;

manganese is present at no more than 2 weight %;

silicon is present at no more than 1.0 weight %;

phosphorus is present at no more than 0.25 weight %;

sulfur is present at no more than 0.06 weight %;

aluminum is present in at least 0.015 weight %;

nitrogen is present at no more than 0.01 weight %; and

the balance of the material is iron

13. (withdrawn) A battery shell characterized in that it is manufactured from the cold band of claim 8 by a forming process.

14. (withdrawn) The battery shell of claim 13, wherein the forming process is drawing and ironing.

15. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the coating step is a galvanic process.

16. (previously presented) The method of claim 15, wherein the coating contains nickel.

17. (previously presented) The method of claim 15 wherein the coating contains cobalt.

18. (previously presented) The method of claim 15 wherein the coating contains iron.

19. (previously presented) The method of claim 15 wherein the coating contains bismuth.

20. (previously presented) The method of claim 15 wherein the coating contains indium.

21. (previously presented) The method of claim 15 wherein the coating contains palladium.

22. (previously presented) The method of claim 15 wherein the coating contains gold.

23. (previously presented) The method of claim 15 wherein the coating contains at least two elements selected from the group consisting of: nickel, cobalt, iron, bismuth, indium, palladium, and gold.

24. (previously presented) The method of claim 3, wherein the second coating step is made by electroplating.

25. (previously presented) The method of claim 24, wherein the coating comprises nickel.

26. (previously presented) The method of claim 24 wherein the coating comprises cobalt.

27. (previously presented) The method of claim 24 wherein the coating comprises iron.

28. (previously presented) The method of claim 24 wherein the coating comprises bismuth.

29. (previously presented) The method of claim 24 wherein the coating comprises indium.

30. (previously presented) The method of claim 24 wherein the coating comprises palladium.

31. (previously presented) The method of claim 24 wherein the coating comprises gold.

32. (previously presented) The method of claim 24 wherein the coating comprises at least two elements selected from the group consisting of: nickel, cobalt, iron, bismuth, indium, palladium, and gold.

33. (previously presented) The method of claim 4, wherein the organic ingredients introduced into the coating are the decomposition products of organic substances in the electrolyte bath.

34. (previously presented) The method of claim 4, wherein the organic ingredients introduced into the coating are the reaction products of organic substances in the electrolyte bath.

35. (previously presented) The method of claim 3, wherein, after the annealing, an additional coating of the band occurs using organic ingredients to enhance the brittleness of the coating.

36. (previously presented) The method of claim 35, wherein the organic ingredients introduced into the coating are the decomposition products of organic substances in the electrolyte bath.

37. (previously presented) The method of claim 35, wherein the organic ingredients introduced into the coating are the reaction products of organic substances in the electrolyte bath.

38. (previously presented) The method of claim 35, wherein the organic ingredients are brighteners.

39. (previously presented) The method of claim 6, wherein the conductive particles comprise carbon.

40. (previously presented) The method of claim 6, wherein the conductive particles comprise carbon black.

41. (previously presented) The method of claim 6, wherein the conductive particles comprise graphite.

42. (previously presented) The method of claim 6, wherein the conductive particles comprise TaS_2.

43. (previously presented) The method of claim 6, wherein the conductive particles comprise TiS_2.

44. (previously presented) The method of claim 6, wherein the conductive particles comprise $MoSi_2$.

45. (previously presented) The method of claim 7, wherein the conductive particles comprise carbon..

46. (previously presented) The method of claim 7, wherein the conductive particles comprise carbon black.

47. (previously presented) The method of claim 7, wherein the conductive particles comprise graphite.

48. (previously presented) The method of claim 7, wherein the conductive particles comprise TaS_2.

49. (previously presented) The method of claim 7, wherein the conductive particles comprise TiS_2.

50. (previously presented) The method of claim 7, wherein the conductive particles comprise $MoSi_2$.

51. (withdrawn) The cold band of claim 8, wherein the coating is applied by a galvanic process.

52. (withdrawn) The cold band of claim 51, wherein the coating comprises nickel.

53. (withdrawn) The cold band of claim 51 wherein the coating comprises cobalt.

54. (withdrawn) The cold band of claim 51 wherein the coating comprises iron.

55. (withdrawn) The cold band of claim 51 wherein the coating comprises bismuth.

56. (withdrawn) The cold band of claim 51 wherein the coating comprises indium.

57. (withdrawn) The cold band of claim 51 wherein the coating comprises palladium.

58. (withdrawn) The cold band of claim 51 wherein the coating comprises gold.

59. (withdrawn) The cold band of claim 51 wherein the coating comprises at least two elements selected from the group consisting of: nickel, cobalt, iron, bismuth, indium, palladium, and gold.

60. (withdrawn) The cold band of claim 9, wherein the additional coating comprises nickel.

61. (withdrawn) The cold band of claim 9, wherein the additional coating comprises cobalt.

62. (withdrawn) The cold band of claim 9, wherein the additional coating comprises iron.

63. (withdrawn) The cold band of claim 9, wherein the additional coating comprises bismuth.

64. (withdrawn) The cold band of claim 9, wherein the additional coating comprises indium.

65. (withdrawn) The cold band of claim 9, wherein the additional coating comprises palladium.

66. (withdrawn) The cold band of claim 9, wherein the additional coating comprises gold.

67. (withdrawn) The cold band of claim 9, wherein the additional coating comprises at least two elements selected from the group consisting of: nickel, cobalt, iron, bismuth, indium, palladium, and gold.

68. (withdrawn) The cold band of claim 10, wherein the conductive particles comprise carbon.

69. (withdrawn) The cold band of claim 10, wherein the conductive particles comprise carbon black.

70. (withdrawn) The cold band of claim 10, wherein the conductive particles comprise graphite.

71. (withdrawn) The cold band of claim 10, wherein the conductive particles comprise TaS_2.

72. (withdrawn) The cold band of claim 10, wherein the conductive particles comprise TiS_2.

73. (withdrawn) The cold band of claim 10, wherein the conductive particles comprise $MoSi_2$.

74. (withdrawn) The cold band of claim 11, wherein the conductive particles comprise carbon.

75. (withdrawn) The cold band of claim 11, wherein the conductive particles comprise carbon black.

76. (withdrawn) The cold band of claim 11, wherein the conductive particles comprise graphite.

77. (withdrawn) The cold band of claim 11, wherein the conductive particles comprise TaS_2.

78. (withdrawn) The cold band of claim 11, wherein the conductive particles comprise TiS_2.

79. (withdrawn) The cold band of claim 11, wherein the conductive particles comprise $MoSi_2$.

80. (new) A method for producing improved cold band suitable for drawing or ironing process, with a carbon content of less than 0.5 weight percent, said cold band having two surfaces, the method comprising the steps of:

rolling the cold band under a cold-rolling ratio of at least 30% and less than 95%;

annealing the cold band by a thermal treatment in an annealing furnace; and

coating the cold band on at least one of the surfaces,

wherein the annealing step occurs in the form of annealing of the band in a continual annealing furnace before or after the coating and

wherein the annealing step occurs at a temperature of more than 911°C and, therefore, at any rate above the limit temperature of the two-phase range ferrite/austenite (α/γ range in the iron-carbon system) to austenite range (γ range in the iron-carbon system) and

wherein conductive particles are embedded into the coating.

81. (new) A method for producing improved cold band suitable for drawing or ironing process, with a carbon content of less than 0.5 weight percent, said cold band having two surfaces, the method comprising the steps of:

rolling the cold band under a cold-rolling ratio of at least 30% and less than 95%;

annealing the cold band by a thermal treatment in an annealing furnace; and

coating the cold band on at least one of the surfaces,

wherein the annealing step occurs in the form of annealing of the band in a continual annealing furnace before or after the coating and

wherein the annealing step occurs at a temperature of more than 911°C and, therefore, at any rate above the limit temperature of the two-phase range ferrite/austenite (α/γ range in the iron-carbon system) to austenite range (γ range in the iron-carbon system) and

wherein the coating is covered with a dispersion-hardened coating containing conductive particles.